

Pioneer Housekeeping.

Salome Ott married Philip Brand in 1844, and set up housekeeping in a fine new log cabin, with a big chimney and a nice slab of stone for a chimney shelf. One morning, as she reached for a dish on the shelf, she felt something sting her, and cried "Mouse"!! On investigation her husband found a huge rattlesnake coiled on the warm shelf. Killing the snake, the young husband applied home remedies, then he ran for a neighbor, perhaps a mile or so away, to go for the nearest doctor, 14 long miles away. The neighbor had to walk, he having no riding animals, but the doctor arrived in time to save Mrs. Brand's life.

More Pioneer Housekeeping.

The chimney in the cabin of Mrs. Brand in 1845-7, was quite large, and one time there was a very heavy rain, almost a cloudburst, that fell just right to put out the open fire in the fire-place below. This fire was the heating, cooking and often the illuminating element in such a home, and its loss was a serious matter. There was no such thing as a match, and the young husband had to walk several miles to the nearest neighbor, to get a live coal, which he carried home in an old stove-pipe elbow, carefully covered with ashes. By cautiously feeding the coal with dry leaves and kindling, they were able to start their fire again and the house had a soul once more.